

**ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF URBAN GREENSPACE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: A
CASE STUDY OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL SQUARE, KAMPALA CITY, UGANDA**

BY

BIRUNGI RONAH

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that this is my original work except where acknowledged and has never been submitted to any University or institution of higher learning for any award.

Birungi Ronah


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Date.....9/07/2016.....

APPROVAL

This dissertation by BIRUNGI RONAH has been done under my supervision.

Masaba Sowedi (Supervisor)



Date

9/2/16

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to GOD for his protection upon my life and to my family especially to my dear husband Mr. Habokwesiga Laban and my lovely daughter Ariana, my friends Hollen, Immaculate, Kahwa and others in appreciation of the care and support offered to me. May the good lord reward you abundantly.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACODE	Advocate Coalition for Development and Environment
EPA	Environmental Property Agency
ES	Ecosystem Services
CVM	Contingent Valuation Method
GDP	Growth Domestic Product
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
PM	Particulate Matter
WTP	Willingness to Pay

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ABSTRACT

The constitutional square is one of the urban green spaces in Uganda. The aim of the study was to determine the economic value of urban green spaces in Kampala City. The specific objectives were to: identify the various ecosystem services provided by urban green spaces in Kampala city, quantify the ecosystem services provided by the urban green spaces and attach monetary value to the urban green spaces in Kampala city. The study adopted a survey design and data were collected using questionnaires. Data were managed using SPSS Software and analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The study findings reveal that most people who visit the Constitutional Square have knowledge about green space ecosystem services and are willing to pay for the ecosystem services particularly shade, fresh air, and space for leisure, meeting place and scenic beauty. The total annual monetary value of the ecosystem services provided by the Constitutional Square is 96,726,000,000shs. The study recommends that Kampala Capital City Authority should conserve the green spaces to ensure provision of the ecosystem services.

CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the description of the study and an analysis of the research problem. It includes problem identification, description, and justification. It also includes the research objectives, research questions, conceptual frame work, significance and scope of the study.

1.2 Background

The provision of ecosystem services in cities depends on the quality and quantity of urban green infrastructure (www.urbesproject.org). Urban green space provides a wide range of ecosystem services that could help combat many urban ills and improve life for city dwellers especially their health. Such urban green space is diverse, varying in size, vegetation cover, species richness, environmental quality, and proximity to public transport, facilities, and services. Public green space includes parks and reserves, sporting fields, riparian areas like stream and river banks, greenways and trails, community gardens, street trees, and nature conservation areas, as well as less conventional spaces such as green walls, green alleyways, and cemeteries, private backyards, communal grounds of apartment buildings, and corporate campuses (Wolch, Byrne, & Newell, 2014).

From the past, many health advocates and human rights activists have been stressing to employers and governments the need for leisure by workers as part of their daily schedule given the anticipated effects to a person's life (Lusk & Ellison, 2013). Green space greatly influence health by providing increased opportunities for physical activity, improving both physical and mental health outcomes, increasing the opportunities for social interaction to occur, and provide restorative effects and reduce stress which has an etiologic association with chronic physical and mental illness (Thompson et al., 2012). In Uganda, individuals are interested in sites that give them maximum satisfaction while incurring the most optimal cost to have these green space ecosystem services. This therefore means that individuals can attach a value to ecosystem benefits and would be willing to pay for these benefits or opt for the substitutes.

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